

(*Albugo candidus*) causing this disease is not, I think, supposed to be poisonous. Even if so, it is doubtful whether the children ate any plant affected with this disease.

Are there cases on record, or known to any one, of poisoning by this plant?—W. A. KELLERMAN, *Columbus, Ohio.*

*Viola sagittata Hicksii*, var. nov.—Somewhat cespitose, from a thick ligneous rootstock; leaves hirsute pubescent, the earliest cordate, the later deltoid ovate, decurrent on the petiole, obtuse, remotely denticulate and nearly entire; flower nearly as in the type; fruiting peduncles more or less recurved; capsules pubescent; sides heavily marked or pitted.

Collected by Mr. Gilbert H. Hicks, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, May 26, 1895, on a hillside in Rock Creek Park, D. C. Plants of the normal *V. sagittata* also occur at this locality, but are not plentiful, being outnumbered ten to one by the new variety. No other species grows there in sufficient quantity to warrant the supposition that this is a hybrid; its affinities are altogether with *V. sagittata*. The distinction lies in the habit of the plant: in the hirsute leaves, which never exhibit any sign of lobation: in the recurved fruiting capsules: and in the seeds, which are conspicuously, instead of obscurely, spotted.

There is a specimen of this variety in the National Herbarium, collected many years ago by Professor Ward, apparently at the same locality, with characters in every way identical with those of the rediscovered specimens. It will be interesting to note whether future observations will indicate a more extended range and the possibility of specific rank for the plant.—CHARLES LOUIS POLLARD, *Washington, D. C.*

An interesting *Equisetum*.—Through the kindness of Dr. J. M. Coulter, I have received a curious *lusus naturæ* in the form of an *Equisetum*, presumably *E. hiemale*, collected near Joliet, Illinois, by Miss Jessie E. Davison. A sketch of the plant is appended. It will be seen that in place of the ordinary growth into joints there has been a lateral growth of the stem and sheath so that there has resulted a spiral extension reminding one of the helicoid growth of *Riella helicophylla* as frequently figured (*Cf.* Goebel: *Outlines*, etc. 145). The plant is evidently distorted in this manner from some injury received early in its growth, but nevertheless forms a remarkable sport.—LUCIEN M. UNDERWOOD, *Greencastle, Ind.*



Fig. 1.—ABNORMAL *EQUISETUM*.  
(Nat. size.)